(XXXII YEAR.) THE (No. 1636.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1777.

The AMERICAN CRISIS.

NUMBER I.

By the AUTHOR of COMMON SENSE.

THESE are the times that try mens ſouls: the ſummer ſoldier and the ſunſhine patriot will, in this criſis, ſhrink from the ſervice of his country; but he that ſtands it *now*, deſerves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not eaſily conquered; yet we have this conſolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we eſteem too lightly: tis dearneſs only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to ſet a proper price upon its goods; and it would be ſtrange indeed, if ſo celeſtial an article as *freedom* ſhould not be highly rated. Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared, that ſhe has a right (*not only to tax*, but) "*to bind us in all caſes whatſoever*," and if being *bound in that manner* is not ſlavery, then is there not ſuch a thing as ſlavery upon earth. Even the expreſſion is impious, for ſo unlimited a power can belong only to God.

Whether the independence of the continent was declared too ſoon, or delayed too long, I will not now enter into an argument; my own ſimple opinion is, that had it been eight months earlier, it would have been much better. We did not make a proper uſe of laſt winter, neither could we, while we were in a dependent ſtate. However, the fault, if it were one, was all our own; we have none to blame but ourſelves *. But no great deal is loſt yet; all that Howe has been doing for this month paſt is rather a ravage than a conqueſt, which the ſpirit of the Jerſeys a year ago would have quickly repulſed, and which time and a little reſolution will ſoon recover.

I have as little ſuperſtition in me as any man living, but my ſecret opinion has ever been, and ſtill is, that God Almighty will not give up a people to military deſtruction, or leave them unſupportedly to periſh, who had ſo earneſtly and ſo repeatedly ſought to avoid the calamities of war, by every decent method which wiſdom could invent. Neither have I ſo much of the infidel in me, as to ſuppoſe, that *he* has relinquiſhed the government of the world, and given us up to the care of devils; and as I do not, I cannot ſee on what grounds the king of Britain can look up to heaven for help againſt us: a common murderer, a highwayman, or a houſebreaker, has as good a pretence as he.

'Tis ſurpriſing to ſee how rapidly a panic will ſometimes run through a country. All nations and ages have been ſubject to them; Britain has trembled like an ague at the report of a French fleet of flat-bottomed boats; and in the fourteenth century the whole Engliſh army, after ravaging the kingdom of France, was driven back like men petrified with fear; and this brave exploit was performed by a few broken forces, collected and headed by a woman, Joan of Arc. Would that heaven might inſpire ſome Jerſey maid to ſpirit up her countrymen, and ſave her fair fellow ſufferers from ravage and raviſhment! Yet panics, in ſome caſes, have their uſes; they produce as much good as hurt. Their duration is always ſhort; the moſt ſoon goes through them, and acquires a firmer mind than before. But their peculiar advantage is, that they are the touchſtones of ſincerity and hypocriſy, and bring things and men to light, which might otherwiſe have lain for ever undiſcovered. In fact, they have the ſame effect on ſecret traitors, which an imaginary apparition would upon a private murderer. They ſtir out the hidden thoughts of man, and hold them up in public to the world. Many a diſguiſed tory has lately ſhewn his head, that ſhall penitentially ſolemnize with curſes the day on which Howe arrived upon the Delaware.

As I was with the troops at fort Lee, and marched with them to the edge of Pennſylvania, I am well acquainted with many circumſtances, which thoſe who lived at a diſtance know but little or nothing of. Our ſituation there was exceedingly cramped, the place being on a narrow neck of land between the North river and the Hackenſack. Our force was inconſiderable, being not one fourth ſo great as Howe could bring againſt us. We had no army at hand to have relieved the garriſon, had we ſhut ourſelves up and ſtood on the defence. Our ammunition, light artillery, and the beſt part of our ſtores, had been removed upon the apprehenſion that Howe would endeavour to penetrate the Jerſeys, in which caſe fort Lee could be of no uſe to us; for it muſt occur to every thinking man, whether in the army or not, that theſe kinds of field forts are only for temporary purpoſes, and laſt in uſe no longer than the enemy directs his force againſt the particular object, which ſuch forts are raiſed to defend. Such was our ſituation and condition at fort Lee on the morning of the 20th of November, when an officer arrived with information, that the enemy with ſoo boats had landed about ſeven or eight miles above: major general Green, who commanded the garriſon, immediately ordered them under arms, and ſent expreſs to his excellency general Waſhington at the town of Hackenſack, diſtant by the way of the ferry ſix miles. Our firſt object was to ſecure the bridge over the Hackenſack, which laid up the river, between the enemy and us, about ſix miles from us and three from them. General Waſhington arrived in about three quarters of an hour, and marched at the head of the troops towards the bridge, which place I expected we ſhould have a bruſh for; however they did not chuſe to diſpute it with us, and the greateſt part of our troops went over the bridge, the reſt over the ferry, except ſome which paſſed at a mill on a ſmall creek, between the bridge and the ferry, and made their way through ſome marſhy grounds up to the town of Hackenſack, and there paſſed the river. We brought off as much baggage as the waggons could contain, the reſt was loſt. The ſimple object was to bring off the garriſon, and to march them on till they could be ſtrengthened by the Jerſey or Pennſylvania militia, ſo as to be enabled to make a ſtand. We ſtaid four days at Newark, collected in our out poſts, with the Jerſey militia, and marched out twice to meet the enemy on information of their being advancing, though our numbers were greatly inferior to theirs. Howe, in my little opinion, committed a great error in generalſhip. He might have ſeized all our ſtores at Brunſwick, and intercepted our march into Pennſylvania; but, if we believe the power of hell to be limited, we muſt likewiſe believe that their agents are under ſome providential controul.

I ſhall not now attempt to give all the particulars of our retreat to the Delaware; ſuffice it for the preſent to ſay, that both officers and men, though greatly harraſſed and fatigued, frequently without reſt, covering, or proviſion, the inevitable conſequences of a long retreat, bore it with a manly and martial ſpirit. All their wiſhes were one, which was, that the country would turn out and help them to drive the enemy back. Voltaire has remarked, that king William never appeared to full advantage but in difficulties and in action; the ſame remark may be made on general Waſhington, for the character fits him. There is a natural firmneſs in ſome minds which cannot be unlocked by triſles, but which, when unlocked, diſcovers a cabinet of fortitude; and I reckon it among thoſe kinds of public bleſſings, which we do not immediately ſee, that GOD hath bleſſed him with uninterrupted health, and given him a mind that can even flouriſh upon care.

I ſhall conclude this paper with ſome miſcellaneous remarks on the ſtate of our affairs; and ſhall begin with aſking the following queſtion: Why is it that the enemy hath left the New-England provinces, and made theſe middle ones the ſeat of war? The anſwer is eaſy: New-England is not infeſted with tories, and we are. I have been tender in raiſing the cry againſt theſe men, and uſed numberleſs arguments to ſhew them their danger, but it will not do to ſacrifice a world to either their folly or their baſeneſs. The period is now arrived in which either they or we muſt change our ſentiments, or one or both muſt fall. And what is a tory? Good God! what is he? I ſhould not be afraid to go with an hundred whigs againſt a thouſand tories, were they to attempt to get into arms. Every tory is a coward, for a ſervile, ſlaviſh, ſelf-intereſted fear is the foundation of toryiſm; and a man under ſuch influence, though he may be cruel, never can be brave.

But before the line of irrecoverable ſeparation be drawn between us, let us reaſon the matter together. Your conduct is an invitation to the enemy, yet not one in a thouſand of you has heart enough to join him. Howe is as much deceived by you as the American cauſe is injured by you. He expects you will all take up arms and flock to his ſtandard with muſkets on your ſhoulders. Your opinions are of no uſe to him, unleſs you ſupport him perſonally; for 'tis ſoldiers, and not tories, that he wants.

I once felt all that kind of anger, which a man ought to feel, againſt the mean principles that are held by the tories. A noted one who kept a tavern at Amboy, was ſtanding at his door with as pretty a child in his hand, about eight or nine years old, as moſt I ever ſaw, and after ſpeaking his mind as freely as he thought was prudent, finiſhed with this unfatherly expreſſion: "*Well! give me peace in my day.*" Not a man lives on the continent but fully believes that a ſeparation muſt ſome time or other finally take place, and a generous parent would have ſaid, "*If there muſt be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace;*" and this ſingle reflection, well applied, is ſufficient to awaken every man to duty. Not a place upon earth might be ſo happy as America. Her ſituation is remote from all the wrangling world, and ſhe has nothing to do but trade with them. A man may eaſily diſtinguiſh in himſelf between temper and principle, and I am as confident as I am that GOD governs the world, that America will never be happy till ſhe gets clear of foreign dominion. Wars, without ceaſing, will break out till that period arrives, and the continent muſt in the end be conqueror; for though the flame of liberty may ſometimes ceaſe to ſhine, the coal never can expire.

America did not, nor does not, want force; but ſhe wanted a proper application of that force. Wiſdom is not the purchaſe of a day, and it is no wonder that we ſhould err at firſt ſetting off. From an exceſs of tenderneſs, we were unwilling to raiſe an army, and truſted our cauſe to the temporary defence of a well-meaning militia. A ſummer's experience has now taught us better; yet with thoſe troops, while they were collected, we were able to ſet bounds to the progreſs of the enemy, and, thank GOD! they are again aſſembling. I always conſidered a militia as the beſt troops in the world for a ſudden exertion, but they will not do for a long campaign. Howe, it is probable, will make an attempt on this city; ſhould he fail on this ſide the Delaware, he is ruined. He ſtakes all on his ſide againſt a part on our's; admitting he ſucceeds, the conſequence will be, that armies from both ends of the continent will march to aſſiſt their ſuffering friends in the middle ſtates; for he cannot go every where, it is impoſſible. I conſider Howe as the greateſt enemy the tories have; he is bringing a war into their country, which, had it not been for him, and partly for themſelves, they had been clear of. Should he be now expelled, I wiſh, with all the devotion of a chriſtian, that the names of whig and tory may never more be mentioned; but ſhould the tories give him encouragement to come, or aſſiſtance if he come, I as ſincerely wiſh that our next year's arms may expel them from the continent, and the congreſs appropriate their poſſeſſions to the relief of thoſe who have ſuffered in well doing. A ſingle ſucceſsful battle next year will ſettle the whole. America could carry on a two years war, by the confiſcation of the property of diſaffected perſons, and be made happy by their expulſion. Say not that this is revenge, call it rather the ſoft reſentment of a ſuffering people, who, having no object in view but the *good of all*, have ſtaked their *own all* upon a ſeemingly doubtful event. Yet it is folly to argue againſt determined hardneſs; eloquence may ſtrike the ear, and the language of ſorrow draw forth the tear of compaſſion, but nothing can reach the heart that is ſteeled with prejudice.

Quitting this claſs of men, I turn with the warm ardour of a friend to thoſe who have nobly ſtood, and are yet determined to ſtand the matter out. I call not upon a few, but upon all; not on *this* ſtate, or *that* ſtate, but on *every* ſtate; up and help us; lay your ſhoulders to the wheel; better have too much force than too little, when ſo great an object is at ſtake. Let it be told to the future world, that in the depth of winter, when nothing but hope and virtue could ſurvive, that the city and the country, alarmed at one common danger, came forth to meet and repulſe it. Say not that thouſands are gone, turn out your tens of thouſands; throw not the burthen of the day upon Providence, but "*ſhew your faith by your works*," that GOD may bleſs you. It matters not where you live, or what rank of life you hold, the evil or the bleſſing will reach you all. The far and the near, the home counties and the back, the rich and the poor, ſhall ſuffer or rejoice alike. The heart that feels not now is dead: The blood of his children ſhall curſe his cowardice who ſhrinks back at a time when a little might have ſaved the whole, and made *them* happy. I love the man that can ſmile in trouble, that can gather ſtrength from diſtreſs, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the buſineſs of little minds to ſhrink, but he whoſe heart is firm, and whoſe conſcience approves his conduct, will purſue his principles unto death. My own line of reaſoning is to myſelf as ſtraight and clear as a ray of light. Not all the treaſures of the world, ſo far as I believe, could have induced me to ſupport an offenſive war, for I think it murder; but if a thief breaks into my houſe, burns and deſtroys my property, and endeavours to kill me, or thoſe that are in it, and to "*bind me in all caſes whatſoever*," to his abſolute will, am I to ſuffer it? What ſignifies it to me, whether he who does it is a king or a common man; my countryman or not my countryman? Whether it is done by an individual villain, or an army of them. If we reaſon to the root of things we ſhall find no difference; neither can any juſt cauſe be aſſigned why we ſhould puniſh in the one caſe, and pardon in the other. Let them call me rebel and welcome, I feel no concern from it; but I ſhould ſuffer the miſery of devils, were I to make a whore of my ſoul by ſwearing allegiance to one, whoſe character is that of a ſottiſh, ſtupid, ſtubborn, worthleſs, brutiſh man. I conceive, likewiſe, a horrid idea in receiving mercy from a being, who at the laſt day ſhall be ſhrieking to the rocks and mountains to cover him, and fleeing with terror from the orphan, the widow, and the ſlain of America.

There are caſes which cannot be overdone by language, and this is one. There are perſons too who ſee not the full extent of the evil that threatens them; they ſolace themſelves with hopes that the enemy, if they ſucceed, will be merciful. It is the madneſs of folly to expect mercy from thoſe who have refuſed to do us juſtice; and even mercy, where conqueſt is the object, is only a trick of war; the cunning of the fox is as murderous as the violence of the wolf; and we ought to guard equally againſt both. Howe's firſt object is partly by threats and partly by promiſes, to terrify or ſeduce the people to deliver up their arms and receive mercy. The miniſtry recommended the ſame plan to Gage, and this is what the tories call making their peace; "*a peace which paſſeth all underſtanding*" indeed! a peace which would be the immediate forerunner of a worſe ruin than any we have yet thought of. Ye men of Pennſylvania, do reaſon upon theſe things! Were the back counties to give up their arms, they would fall an eaſy prey to the Indians, who are all armed. This perhaps is what ſome tories would not be ſorry for. Were the home counties to deliver up their arms, they would be expoſed to the reſentment of the back counties, who would then have it in their power to chaſtiſe their defection at pleaſure. And were any one ſtate to give up its arms, *that* ſtate muſt be garriſoned by all Howe's army of Britons and Heſſians to preſerve it from the anger of the reſt. Mutual fear is a principal link in the chain of mutual love, and woe be to that ſtate that breaks the compact. Howe is mercifully inviting you to barbarous deſtruction, and men muſt be either rogues or fools that will not ſee it. I dwell not upon the vapours of imagination; I bring reaſon to your ears; and in language as plain as A, B, C, hold up truth to your eyes.

I thank GOD that I fear not. I ſee no real cauſe for fear. I know our ſituation well, and can ſee the way out of it. While our army was collected, Howe dared not riſk a battle, and it is no credit to him that he decamped from the White Plains, and waited a mean opportunity to ravage the defenceleſs Jerſeys; but it is great credit to us, that, with an handful of men, we ſuſtained an orderly retreat for near an hundred miles,

* "*The preſent winter (meaning the laſt) is worth an age, if wiſely employed, but if loſt, or neglected, the whole continent will partake of the evil, and poſterity will curſe us puniſhment that man does not deſerve, be he Tory, or what, or where he will, that may be the means of ſacrificing a ſeaſon ſo precious and uſeful.*" COMMON SENSE.

greatest part of our ſtores, and had four rivers to paſs. None can ſay that our retreat was precipitate, for we were near three weeks in performing it, that the country might have time to come in. Twice we marched back to meet the enemy and remained out till dark. The ſign of fear was not ſeen in our camp, and had not ſome of the cowardly and diſaffected inhabitants ſpread falſe alarms through the country, the Jerſeys had never been ravaged. Once more we are again collected and collecting; our new army at both ends of the continent is recruiting faſt, and we ſhall be able to open the next campaign with ſixty thouſand men, well armed and cloathed. This is our ſituation, and who will may know it. By perſeverance and fortitude we have the proſpect of a glorious iſſue; by cowardice and ſubmiſſion, the ſad choice of a variety of evils—a ravaged country—a depopulated city—habitations without ſafety, and ſlavery without hope—our homes turned into barracks and bawdy-houſes for Heſſians, and a future race to provide for whoſe fathers we ſhall doubt of.—Look on this picture, and weep over it! and if there yet remains one thoughtleſs wretch who believes it not, let him ſuffer it unlamented.

BOSTON, *December 5.*

By a late arrival from Spain, we are informed, that an American armed veſſel was lately ſeized in one of their ports, at the inſtance of a Britiſh factor; but upon the maſter's making a ſpirited oppoſition to the court of Spain, the following order was ſent to the commiſſary of marine, by the marquis of Grimaldi, miniſter to that court:

"By your letter of the 4th inſt. and the teſtimony that accompanied it, his majeſty is acquainted with what has occurred reſpecting the American ſchooner Hawk, capt. John Lee, from the time of his entry to the time of your laying her under a formal embargo, by obliging her to deliver up the tiller; all at the inſtance of don Vera Franciſco Gomez de la Terre, inhabitants of your places. His majeſty has likewiſe ſeen the proteſt of ſaid American captain, againſt all the damages that might enſue. In conſequence of which, ſays to you, that whereas his majeſty, from the great friendſhip he poſſeſſes for his Britannic majeſty, maintains a perfect neutrality in the preſent war, not giving to the coloniſts any of theſe aids, prohibited in like caſes, ſo likewiſe it correſponds to the ſame neutrality, not to deny them entrance into his ports, which they have been always uſed to enjoy, ſo long as they reſpect the territories of his majeſty, in proper terms. Beſides the above, his majeſty thinks Mr. Gomez an improper perſon to ſolicit a proceeding of this nature, you will therefore be pleaſed immediately to put ſaid American in full liberty, returning him all his papers, and permitting him to purchaſe what proviſions and goods he needs, to return to his own country, but without aſſiſting in any prohibited articles."

Signed, MARQUIS of GRIMALDI.

St. Ildefonſo, October 7, 1776.

And we are alſo adviſed, that the commiſſary was inſtructed to inform captain Lee, "That all American bottoms, whether privateers, prizes, or any other veſſels, ſhould henceforward be freely admitted to enter, repair, or act as they think proper, paying due reſpect to his majeſty's territories and orders."

BALTIMORE, *December 30.*

Congreſs received the following intelligence from the Council of Safety, as coming from "an officer of diſtinction in the army."

Head Quarters, Newtown, Bucks county, Dec. 27

It was determined ſome days ago, that our army ſhould paſs over to Jerſey at three different places and attack the enemy; accordingly, about 2500 men and 20 braſs field pieces, with his excellency general Waſhington at their head, and major general Sullivan and general Green in command of two diviſions, paſſed over on the night of Chriſtmas, and about three o'clock a. m. were on their march by two routs towards Trenton.—The night was ſleety and cold and the roads ſlippery, that it was day break when we were two miles from Trenton, but happily the enemy were not apprized of our deſign, and our advance party were on their guards at half a mile from town, where general Sullivan's and general Green's diviſions ſoon came into the ſame road.

Their guard gave our advance party ſeveral ſmart fires as we drove them, but we ſoon got two field pieces at play and ſeveral others in a ſmall time, and one of our columns paſhing down on the right while the other advanced on the left into the town, the enemy, conſiſting of about 1500 Heſſians under col. Rohl, formed, and made ſome ſmart fires from their muſquetry and ſix field pieces, but our people preſſed from every quarter and drove them from their cannon.---They retired towards a field behind a piece of woods up the creek from Trenton and formed in two bodies, which I expected would have brought on a ſmart action from our troops who had formed very near them; but at that inſtant, as I came in full view of them from the back of the woods with his excellency general Waſhington, an officer informed him that one party had grounded their arms and ſurrendered priſoners.---The other ſoon followed their example, except a part which had got off in the hazy weather towards Princeton; their light horſe made off on our firſt approach.---Too much praiſe cannot be given to the officers and men of every regiment, who ſeemed to vie with each other, and by their active ſpirited behaviour, they ſoon put an honourable iſſue to this glorious day.

You may rejoice and be exceeding glad at this intelligence of our ſucceſs, which I hope and believe will prevent the enemy from paſſing the river.

We took three ſtandards, ſix fine braſs cannon, and near one thouſand ſtand of arms. They muſt have had about twenty or thirty killed.

I was immediately ſent off with the priſoners to M'Conkey's ferry, and have got about ſeven hundred and fifty ſafe in town and a few miles from here, on this ſide the ferry, viz. one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, four captains, ſeven lieutenants, and eight enſigns. We left col. Rohl, the commandant, wounded, on his parole, and ſeveral other officers and wounded men, at [illegible]. We loſt but two of our men that I can hear of, a few wounded, and one brave officer, capt. Waſhington, who aſſiſted in ſecuring their artillery, ſhot in both hands. Indeed every officer and private behaved well, and it was a fortunate day to our arms, which I the more rejoice at, having an active part in it. The ſucceſs of this day will greatly animate our friends, and add freſh courage to our new army, which, when formed, will be ſufficient to ſecure us from the depredations or inſults of our enemy.

"Gen. Ewing's diviſion could not paſs at Trenton for the ice, which alſo impeded gen. Cadwallader paſſing over with all his cannon and the militia, though part of his troops were over; and if the whole could have paſſed, we ſhould have ſwept the coaſt to Philadelphia.

Publiſhed by order of congreſs,

CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary.

ANNAPOLIS.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY.

October 23, 1776.

A QUANTITY of ſtrong coarſe STOCKINGS wanted for the uſe of this State. The Council will contract with any perſon therefor.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, clk.

To be SOLD,

By the Subſcribers, in ANNAPOLIS,

A PARCEL of choice JAMAICA SPIRIT, in hogſheads, tierces, and kegs; MUSCOVADO SUGAR, in hogſheads and barrels; PICKED COTTON; COFFEE, and GINGER.—Theſe goods were ſhipped in JAMAICA for the BRITISH market, and are of the very beſt quality.

tf WILLIAM WILKINS,
JOHN MUIR.

Baltimore, December 31. 1776.

TWO HUNDRED and SIXTY POUNDS REWARD.

MADE their eſcape on the night of the 29th inſt. from the priſon of Baltimore, the ſix following priſoners, enemies to the United American States, viz.

WILLIAM GOODRIDGE and BRIDGER GOODRIDGE, both born in Virginia, and two of the moſt noted traitors in America; being both partiſans of lord Dunmore, and very active agents for him in all the piracies and depredations committed by him in Chaſapeake Bay.

William Goodridge is a well made luſty man, about 34 years of age, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, ſtoop ſhoulder'd, a genteel well looking young man, about 24 years of age, of a daring bold countenance, light colour'd hair, his face a little freckled.

KENNETH M'DONALD, ALEXANDER M'CLEOD, DANIEL M'CLEOD, and MURDOCK M'CASTLE, four of the Scots tories, belonging to North Carolina.

Kenneth M'Donald is about 5 feet 7 inches high, 30 years of age, wears his own hair black and long, generally tied behind; had on a blue coat and breeches.

Alexander M'Cleod, about 30 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, with ſhort black hair, a light blue coat, other dreſs unknown.

Daniel M'Cleod, about 23 years of age, middle ſize, had on a blue coat.

Murdock M'Caſtle, about 28 or 30 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches high, a ſlender made man, had on a green coat, other cloaths uncertain.

Whoever apprehends any of the ſaid perſons and delivers them to the committee of Baltimore, ſhall receive for William and Bridger Goodridge, ONE HUNDRED POUNDS current money for each, and for each of the others FIFTEEN POUNDS current money.

Annapolis, December 27, 1776.

THE ſubſcriber having declined buſineſs, and has many accounts unſettled, will be much obliged to thoſe who are indebted to him to diſcharge their reſpective balances; and, if it is not convenient to pay them, he hopes they will not delay ſettling them by bond or note of hand. This reaſonable requeſt he flatters himſelf will not be objected to by any perſon who means well.

To be let, a two ſtory brick HOUSE, near the public building where I now live, ſuitable for a genteel family, has a good well of water in the yard, and neceſſary out-buildings, garden, &c.

tf THOMAS HYDE.

N. B. A ſmall parcel of European goods to be ſold by the lump, at a ſmall advance. T. H.

December 25, 1776.

STRAYED or ſtolen, from the plantation of John Ray, ſen. near Bladenſburgh, in Prince-George's county, on the 25th day of November laſt, a bay MARE, about 15 hands high, branded on the near thigh with S R; ſhe paces ſhort, gallops, and trots a little, part of one of her hind legs of a greyiſh colour, about ſeven years of age, and is forward with foal.—Whoever ſecures the ſaid mare, ſo that ſhe may be had again, and thief, if ſtolen, ſhall receive five pounds reward, and if ſtrayed, then ſhall receive fifty ſhillings, by me,

w4 WILLIAM RAY.

Annapolis, December 27, 1776.

WILLIAM ROBERTS will weekly buy two hundred weight of HOG MEAT more than he has, he will give the governing price of the market.

Stolen or ſtrayed, from the ſubſcriber, a large red and white COW, with a white face. The ſubſcriber will give twenty ſhillings to know where ſhe is, ſo that he can have her again.

WILLIAM ROBERTS.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

December 24, 1776.

WENT away from the ſubſcriber's plantation, in Prince-George's county, near Snowden's Iron-works, on the 9th day of laſt October, a ſhort well ſet negro fellow, named JACOB, about twenty-ſix years of age, five feet four or five inches high, and has had (not for his honeſty) the under part of both his ears taken off. He has alſo a ſcar on the upper part of one of his thighs, occaſioned by a burn. The apparel he had on when he went away was an oznaburgs ſhirt, aſh-coloured country cloth coat and breeches, old yarn ſtockings, old hat, and old ſhoes; but as he is notoriouſly addicted to every kind of villainy, he has no doubt, ere now, furniſhed himſelf with other and better cloathing; and being of a yellowiſh complexion, he will very poſſibly endeavour to impoſe himſelf upon the credulous for a freeman. Whoever takes up ſaid negro, and ſecures him in any jail, ſo that I get him again, ſhall receive five pounds, current money, and if brought home, the above reward.

w4 THOMAS WELSH.

Juſt publiſhed, and to be ſold at the Printing-office,

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROVINCE of MARYLAND,

Held at the city of Annapolis, on Wedneſday the 14th of Auguſt, 1776.

Head of Severn, Dec. 20, 1776.

ALL perſons who have any claims againſt the eſtate of Mr. John Stevens, ſen. of the north ſide of Severn, late deceaſed, are deſired to bring them in to the ſubſcriber, duly authenticated and proved, that they may be adjuſted and diſcharged by him: And all thoſe who are indebted in any wiſe to ſaid eſtate; are requeſted to come without delay, and diſcharge, or otherwiſe ſettle, the ſame with their humble ſervant,

4w VACHEL STEVENS.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Lower diſtrict, Frederick county, Maryland Nov. 26, 1776.

RAN away laſt night from the ſubſcriber, living in the fork of Hawling's river, near the chapel, an Iriſh ſervant man, named THOMAS PEARLE, about 21 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, a well ſet fellow, of a fair complexion, wears his own brown hair, has very little if any beard; had on, when he went away, two country cloth jackets, both kerſey wove, and fulled, the upper one black and white, much worn, the under one white, breeches of the ſame kind of cloth as the under jacket, much worn and patched, coarſe country linen ſhirt, thread ſtockings, new ſhoes double ſoaled, with iron plates on the ſoals, and nails in the heels, tied with ſtrings, a Dutch cap tarred on the crown of it; he has loſt one of his upper fore teeth, and has a ſcar on his chin oppoſite the loſt tooth, occaſioned by a kick of a horſe. Whoever takes up ſaid ſervant, and ſecures him in any gaol, and gives notice to his maſter, ſhall receive ten dollars, and if brought home, the above reward, including what the law allows, paid by

w6 RICHARD GREEN.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

December 4, 1776.

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber, laſt night, a BAY HORSE, between 14 and 15 hands high, branded on the near ſhoulder E B, both his hind feet white, a long narrow ſtar in his forehead, paces tolerably well, lately trimmed and newly ſhod before, has a ſunken place upon his neck, or withers, like he'd had a ſiſtula. Whoever takes up the thief, or ſecures him in any gaol, ſo that he may be brought to juſtice, ſhall have the above reward; and for the horſe alone, ſo that I get him again, forty ſhillings, paid by

3w PHILIP HAMMOND
of the head of Severn

ARCHIBALD CHISHOLM, Cabinet-maker, in ANNAPOLIS,

TAKES this opportunity of informing his old cuſtomers and friends in general, that the partneſhip of SHAW and CHISHOLM is diſſolved, and that he has removed from the houſe lately occupied by the company, to the oppoſite ſide of the ſame ſtreet, at the houſe lately poſſeſſed by Mr. Charles Peale; where he continues to carry on the cabinet, chair making, and turning buſineſs: He likewiſe makes ſword ſcabbards, fifes, and billiard tacks, in the neateſt manner

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FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

Frederick county, Dec. 4. 1776.

STOLEN, from ISAAC WITBSTER's plantation, on Patuxent river, Frederick county, about the 25th ult. a BLACK HORSE, about ſix years old, has two white feet, and is undocked or branded; he is a round bodied horſe, better than 14 hands high, and uſed to the draught.---Whoever takes up the ſaid horſe and thief, and brings them to the ſubſcriber, ſhall receive, if ten miles from home, 20 s. if twenty miles 30s. if thirty miles 30s. if fifty miles, or out of the province, 3 l. for the horſe; and if the thief is brought to juſtice, the above reward, and reaſonable charges, by

w6 WILLIAM WATERS.

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